

We claim:

5 **1.** A computing system comprising a central processing unit, associated memory, input/output devices and containing an e-mail system, characterized in that it includes a remote control device comprising :

- means to convert speech to text.
- means to transmit the said text to the said e-mail system
- means to receive text from the said e-mail system
- means to convert the received text into speech
- means to select and access the received e-mail in the said e-mail system.

10 **2.** A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said remote control device (RCD) further includes a means to display the received email messages.

15 **3.** A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said remote control device is customized by the user to speak aloud the sender, date, subject, e-mail content and attachment (if required) for incoming mail.

20 **4.** A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said remote control device includes means for selecting email message or folder.

25 **5.** A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said remote control device includes means for speaking aloud the summary of an e-mail folder.

6. A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said remote control device is linked to the said computer through infra-red or ultrasonic or radio frequency waves.

Sub A 7. A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said e-mail system provides a audio announcement whenever new messages are received.

5 8. A computing system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the said remote control device comprising :

- a microphone connected to the input of microphone amplifier,
- the output of said microphone is connected to the input of an analog to digital converter (ADC).
- 10 - the output of the said ADC is connected to the one input of a processor means,
- the second input of said processor is connected to a ROM (Read Only Memory) containing text-to-speech, conversion and speech to text conversion software,
- 15 - a first input-output of said processor means is connected to Random Access Memory (RAM) which contains the speech-to-text data, text-to-speech-data, and command and status data,
- one output of said processor means is connected to a transmitter for transmitting the said data in RAM to a remote computing system containing an e-mail system,
- 20 - another input of the said processor means is connected to a receiver which receives the data from the remote computing system containing e-mail system,
- another input/output of the processor means is connected to a control panel containing switches and display elements,
- 25 - another output of the said processor means is connected to a digital to analogue convertor (DAC) which converts the data received after text-to- speech conversion into an analogue electrical signal and feeds

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to the input of an audio amplifier which drives a loud speaker to generate audible sound.

5 9. A computing system as claimed in claim 8 wherein the said processor means is a digital signal processor.

10. A computing system as claimed in claim 8 wherein the said processor means is a micro controller.

10 11. A computing system as claimed in claim 8 wherein the said processor means is an ASIC.

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15 12. A computing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein the said ASIC includes the entire circuit except the microphone, speaker, computer containing e-mail system and control panel.

13. A computing system as claimed in claim 11 wherein the said ASIC contains ROM , RAM ,transmitter and receiver.

20 14. A computer programme product residing on computer storage media containing computer readable devices embodied therein for causing a computer e-mail system to receive instructions and e-mail content from a remote control device and to send status and e-mail content to the said device.

25 15. A computer programme product as claimed in claim 14 wherein the said includes the facility for text-to-speech conversion.

16. In a computing system consisting of a central processing unit, associated memory, input/output devices and containing an e-mail system, a method for remotely controlling the said e-mail system using an audio support comprising:

sending e-mail by:

- receiving the speech input from the user,
- converting the speech input into the analog electrical signal,
- amplifying the said electrical signal and converting to digital form,
- converting the said digitized to text,
- transmitting the said text to the computer containing e-mail system,
- receiving the transmitted text in the computer containing e-mail system,
- transferring the said text to the said e-mail system,

receiving e-mail by:

- transmission of data from computer containing e-mail system,
- receiving transmitted data at the remote control device,
- converting said received data from text to digitized speech,
- converting the said digitized speech to analog form,
- amplifying the said analog signal and converting to speech for the user.

17. A method as claimed in claim 16 wherein the email is selected through speech or through control panel.

18. A method as claimed in claim 16 wherein the received mail message is displayed on the said remote control device (RCD)